

## Letter from Mabel Hubbard Bell to Alexander Graham Bell, March 3, 1876, with transcript

Letter from Miss Mabel G. Hubbard to Dr. Alexander Graham Bell. (1876?) March 3 My dear Alec:

Your telegram came last night and your letter this morning. How can I tell you how very glad I am for you, I am so glad you have at last obtained this patent for which you worked so hard and have now as you say, a fair prospect of success. I am just as happy as I can be and only wish I could tell you so myself. It is such a great weight off your mind and we cannot be thankful enough for it. What a dreadful exciting time you must have had with all those three men working against you with all their might and main. I can hardly understand how you managed to beat them all even if you did have the better claim. Now that it is all over and we have the patent I feel very sorry for poor Mr. Gray and La Cour and not for that other man you may be sure. After all you were mistaken about Mr. Gray were you not? At least La Cour cannot have done anything dishonorable toward you, and I am very sorry for him and wish him better luck next time, when you are not his opponent. How very nice that little sentence in your old specification was. If the Examiner had noticed it would he have granted your patent, and if he had done so would he have interfered in anyway with this present patent. I will be careful about that other man, for I understand how it would be to your advantage to keep your knowledge of their movements secret.

Today is your birthday and I have sent off a telegram congratulating you. I hope you will have many very happy returns of the day. Is it not nice your patent should come so like a birthday present. I am glad you are enjoying yourself so. Be sure you keep looking very nice and clean, and do we credit my dear. I am so sorry you had a bad headache, but hope you feel better now everything has come out so well.

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With ever so much love, Your, Mabel.

I find I have not said anything about ourselves, but indeed there is little to say, we are about as usual, Grace goes to school again, and is very gay, now constantly going out coasting, sleigh riding or skating these cold moonlight nights. There were no letters for you at the University, this card and the paper I enclose and send are the first that have come since Saturday.

Miss Locke is in your rooms as usual. We are very busy with our spring dressmaking and when you come home I hope to have the pleasure of showing you how Miss Dennis has cut up some twenty-six yards of black silk. We miss you and Berta, the house seems so lonely and deserted without you both.

With much love, Goodbye again.